

Even where the literature is reasonably good, there is needed, besides, the tonic of the scriptures. Only thru them will the young be brought up in righteousness, purity, reverence, and the fear of the Lord. Wherever the Bible is studied, the home is sweetened and purified. It is because of this fact that God gave the command,—“And these words which I command thee this day, shall be upon thine heart, and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.” Deut. 6: 6, 7.

In requiring his words to be the main theme of the household, God was but seeking to develop the ideal home.

The Home Department is but an instrument to give effect to this commandment of the Lord. It seeks to give the Bible its rightful place in the home.

The primary and junior teachers, as well as all other teachers, who would be successful in their work must be interested in the home, as well as in the pulpit; for it is there also that the seed which she sows is watered and caused to develop. He is a wise teacher who gains the cooperation of the parents, by having them read the word of God regularly in the home. She can accomplish this by introducing them to the Home Department.

The parent of every pupil, who is not a member of the Sabbath school, should be a member of the Home Department. In this way the primary and junior teachers can not only help the Home Department, but the Home Department will, in turn, prove a great help in her work. The mother who has joined the Home Department will take more interest in getting her children off regularly to Sunday school, as well as assist them to prepare the lesson.

A boy of twelve years, who was considered by the teacher and the rest of the pupils, a dull disinterested boy, came to S. S. one Sabbath, prepared and eager to answer every question, asked by the teacher. The teacher looked at him, surprisingly, wondering where he had gained this knowledge. He whispered to her smilingly, “My mamma has joined the Home Department.”

Dear teachers are you interested in the souls of your scholars? Then take an interest in that home, in those parents. That mother, with her little ones, and household duties to look after, and who is deprived of the study of the lesson at the regular session of the Sunday School, will be glad to become a member of the Home Department, and study the lesson at home with her children.

There are those who are employed on Sunday, as trollymen, commercial travellers, rail roaders, servants, and others who cannot always attend S. S., others who are indifferent and cannot be induced to go to church or S. S. are often induced to study the lesson at home; gradually their interest will be roused, and in many cases they will

finally become regular attendants at church and S. S.

Then there are the aged and infirm. They are often made to feel that their days of usefulness are entirely gone by. An invitation to them to become members of the H. D., which is a department of the S. S. will in many cases indeed be welcome. They will be rejoiced to know that they still can be associated with others, and have a place with them. This knowledge will do much to dissipate loneliness, and increase their self-respect; and a visit by the H. D. visitor, once every three month is much appreciated. Already it has brought joy and comfort to many. In many cases it leads to the study of the lesson by others in the home; to the conversion of one or more; and the setting up of the family altar.

Thus the Home Department will in many instances make over a home and serve as a missionary agency for the church and Sabbath School.

Allentown, Pa.

#### COMPLETE IN CHRIST

A. J. HIXSON

The epistle to the Colossians is one very full of comfort to the careful Bible reader. “Christ is all and in all to the believer.” Thru him we are enriched with all the precious promises and with him we hope to spend an eternity of happiness and joy forever. “In him dwelleth all the fulness of the God-head bodily and ye are complete in him which is the head of all principality and power. In whom ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ.” Wonderfully inspiring declamations. Not of man but of God. We love to read and study the epistles of Paul because he declared “that the gospel by him was not after man but he was taught it by revelation of Jesus Christ.”

With such experience, no wonder he felt that in Christ Jesus was completeness. Our redemption is in Christ. “No other name given under heaven whereby we can saved.” He began it, carried on until at the cross he exclaimed, “It is finished!” Our justification and righteousness. “Being justified by his grace thru the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation thru faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, the forbearance of God. To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness; that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.” Rom. 3: 24, 26. Our services for which we need the greater grace, they must all be done in his name and for his glory. “Whatsoever ye do do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.” How many are the trials and disappointments we encounter from our adversaries? Christ is our captain “thanks be unto God which always causeth us to triumph in Christ.” 2 Cor. 2: 14. “We are more than conquerors thru

him that loved us.” Rom. 8: 37. “I can do all things thru Christ which strengtheneth me.” Phil. 4: 13.

Our completeness for the dying hour we are exhorted to prepare to meet our God. The death of Christ has robbed the dreary passage of all its terrors and lighted it up with a halo of glory. “All things are yours, whether the world, or life, or death, or things present or things to come, all are yours and ye are Christ’s, and Christ is God’s. “To die is gain.” “Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.” O death, where is thy sting! O grave, where is thy victory!” 1 Cor. 15: 57.

One more thought impresses us along the line of our completeness in Christ. “Our resurrection and eternal glory.” “I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believeth in me, tho he were dead, yet shall he live; And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.” John 11: 25, 26. “Who shall change our vile body that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body?” Phil. 3: 21. He will judge us in righteousness. Confess us. “Come ye blessed of my father.” Receive us into his everlasting kingdom, crown us heirs of eternal life,—all that is sacred and precious in the interests of the believer whether for life or death or eternity is complete in Jesus Christ.

Dear reader, do you possess this Saviour? This experience must be personally realized by the experience of his grace in our hearts. We must be in Christ and “Christ in us the hope of glory.” Col. 1: 27.

## The Home

### The Service of Smiles

Go smiling thru this world of care,  
And make the days more bright and fair,  
So much the clouds o’erspread the sky—  
So many hopes and comforts die—  
And we can all some cheer impart  
To soothe a dull and careworn heart.  
He serves the Lord, who thus beguiles,  
The gloom from souls with sunny smiles.

Go smiling thru this world of care,  
’Twill easy make the loads to bear,  
And bring some rest and sweet relief  
To souls borne down by care and grief.  
In each one’s heart some sadness lies,  
And tears have bathed all human eyes.  
He serves the Master who beguiles  
The gloom away with sunny smiles.

Go smiling all the way along,  
And fill the days with joy and song,  
Go speak a word of hope and cheer  
To every soul that passes near.  
For each of them, as well as thee,  
That blood was shed on Calvary.  
Ah, Christlike he is who beguiles  
Away both sin and grief with smiles.

—W. C. MARTIN.

### Card-playing at Home

In themselves cards are harmless. The danger is in the passion which is awakened by the playing of cards. Playing cards for pleasure, for passtime, or as an innocent amusement may be all right, but the danger